

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Engaging in partisan "hit politics" shortly before an election in no way serves that interest.

I object to Sinclairs' obvious flouting of the public interest with the running of an untrue and anything but factual attack piece on a candidate. Of course, that may be what happens when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. We the people need information and the truth, not Sinclairs' distortion of it.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I intend to join other Americans in working to strength the renewal process because I am appalled by Sinclair's actions which have clearly crossed the line of ethical and fair reporting.